



Atty. Dkt. No. 016790-0455

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jürgen HOFFMANN
Title: SCANNING MICROSCOPE AND MODULE FOR A SCANNING MICROSCOPE
Appl. No.: 10/066,582
Filing Date: 02/06/2002
Examiner: T. Luu
Art Unit: 2878

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR §1.114.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents B3-B5 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding German application. Partial translations of the German Office Actions setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner are attached.

As noted, the characterizations of the German Patent Office noted above are based on English translations obtained by Applicant's representative. The disclosure of these characterizations should not be construed as an admission of or agreement with the opinions expressed in the German Office Actions.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, English language abstracts are provided herewith. Consequently, the foreign language documents have been submitted in compliance with the PTO requirements and, therefore, the documents should be considered by the Examiner (37 CFR §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609). Document B1 and Document B3 claim priority based on the same first filed application. Document B2 and Document B5 claim priority based on the same first filed application. Applicant wishes to inform the Examiner that a copy of WO 95/21393 cited by the German examiner is not being submitted herewith since it was previously submitted on February 6, 2002.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

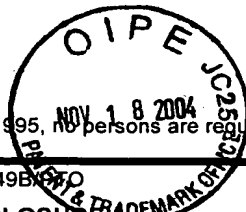
Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 18, 2004

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By  _____

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Substitute for form 1449B-PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: November 18, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/066,582
				Filing Date	2/6/2002
				First Named Inventor	Jürgen HOFFMANN
				Group Art Unit	2878
				Examiner Name	T. Luu
				Attorney Docket Number	016790-0455
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	B1	6,222,961	B1	ENGELHARDT et al.	04/24/2001	
	B2	2002/0063220	A1	ENGELHARDT et al.	05/30/2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B3	DE	196 33 185	A1	LEICA LASERTECHNIK	10/23/1997		Abst.
	B4	DE	199 14 049	A1	LEICA MICROSYSTEMS HEIDELBERG GmbH	10/05/2000		Abst.
	B5	DE	100 56 382	A1	LEICA MICROSYSTEMS HEIDELBERG GmbH	05/23/2002		Abst.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.